Attorney's Docket No. TN172   Serial No. 09/468,469
AMENDMENT

Specification Amendment

Please substitute this amended paragraph for the one on Page 32, line 24 continuing to Page 33, line 8 of the specification:

FIG. ~~13~~ 11 shows a case in which two writing threads, writer 1 and writer 2, need to write to the same resource. Writer 1 requests a write lock at step 91(1), and writer 2 requests a write lock at step 91(2), which occurs slightly later in time that step 91(1). Because two threads are not permitted to write to a resource at the same time, writer 1 is permitted to proceed, while writer 2 must wait until writer 1 is finished. In the example depicted in FIG. 9, writing thread proceeds to acquire a lock, write data to the resource, and release the lock, at steps 92(1)-94(1). Writer 2 waits until writer 1 has completed step 94(1) before proceeding to acquire a lock at step 92(2), write data to the resource at step 93(2), and release the lock at step 94(2). As discussed above in connection with FIG. 7, since writer 1 and writer 2 both issued their lock requests before either was granted, there is no logical reason why writer 1's lock request must be granted before writer 2's request. However, in the implementation discussed above, which is only one of many possible implementations of the invention, writer 1 acquired the WRITE critical section as soon at writer 1 issued a lock request, thereby preventing writer 2 from acquiring a lock until writer 1 released the lock (and thus the WRITE critical section) at step 94(1).